REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-16, and 18-23 are pending in the present application of which claims 1, 6, 13, and 16 are independent. Claims 21-23 are new. Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims in view of the following remarks.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3-6, 8-16, and 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 6,237,006 ("Weinberg"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Independent claim 1 as amended recites, "grouping said outside link bundles into a multiple link connector (MLC) object and associating an interactive connector icon with said MLC object." Independent claims 6, 13, and 16 contain similar recitations.

The Office Action alleges that this feature is disclosed in Weinberg at column 20, lines 24-30. The cited text states, ". . . a single Graph object 114 may include multiple Nodes objects 118 and multiple Edges objects 119." This, however, is describing elements of the **logical** representation of the map, as opposed to the **graphical** representation. Further, column 19, lines 66-67 states "[e]ach Site Graph object corresponds generally to a map of a Web Site. . ." Therefore, the cited text only indicates that a map may include multiple edges and nodes, rather than

disclosing a single map element with a corresponding icon representing multiple links.

In discussing a related concept, the Office Action refers to FIG. 24 of Weinberg and asserts that, "the node CNN-SHOWBIZ may represent an inside node while nodes 91A-E represent outside nodes." *Office Action Dated 11-26-08, Page 3.* The nodes 91A-E do not represent outside links, however, but rather different elements within the same area of interest. As the Weinberg specification explains at Column 15, Lines 48-52, the satellites 91A-E are the same as satellites 85. Satellites 91A-E simply have child nodes of their own and are separated in order to position and display them properly.

Further, if the satellites of Weinberg FIG. 24 are assumed to represent outside links, which they do not, then Weinberg FIG. 24 clearly demonstrates the same problem related by the present application with respect to Martineau, FIG. 1. Namely, the supposed outside links are outside the area of interest by definition, yet take up a considerable amount of screen space with respect to the assumed inside nodes. Weinberg FIG. 4 does not show the **bundling** of the assumed outside links. Instead, each of the assumed outside links appears as a **distinct node**, attached to the assumed inside node via a **distinct edge**.

At one point, Weinberg does specifically discuss external links. In Column 26, Lines 31-46, Weinberg explains that external links may be outside the area of interest and thus represented by a "not scanned" icon. However, each outside link

is still represented by a single icon. As seen in Weinberg FIG. 13, the single node
"Infoseek" is linked **separately** to 20 distinct external links. This shows, again,
that Weinberg suffers from the same problem addressed by the recited subject
matter.

The recited subject matter, on the other hand, bundles outside links and
displays a single MLC object icon. This has the desirable effect of reducing the
overall screen space used to display the outside links of a particular node and
making the graph generally easier to view and understand. Thus, Weinberg wholly
fails to disclose grouping the outside links into a MLC object and associating the
object with a connector icon.

Independent claim 1 as amended further recites, "displaying, responsive to
selecting said interactive connector icon, a pop-up window showing a multiple link
connector (MLC) list wherein each outside link bundle and corresponding outside
node group are displayed as an item in said MLC list." Independent claims 6, 13,
and 16 contain similar recitations.

The Office Action alleges that this feature is disclosed by Weinberg at column
17, lines 20-37 and lines 52-55. As described by the cited text, "FIG. 4 illustrates a
split-screen mode which allows the user to view a graphical representation of the
Web site in an upper window 76 while viewing a **corresponding** textual
representation (referred to as 'List View') in a lower window 78" (emphasis added).
FIG. 4 clearly shows that each entry in the cited list actually corresponds to a

distinct node in the graphical view (e.g. 10K.pdf, proxy.pdf, and prospectus.pdf, *inter alia*, appear in both the example graph and list). Therefore, Weinberg simply discloses a list of **every element** in the map, rather than a list of **only the outside elements** otherwise omitted from the map.

Weinberg further discloses in Column 17, Lines 52-55 that ". . . whenever a user selects a node . . . the corresponding **line** . . . is automatically highlighted." (emphasis added). Therefore, selecting any given node according to Weinberg will result in the emphasis of an **item** in a list, rather than resulting in an **entire list** wherein each list item is directly relevant to the clicked icon popping up.

Further, Weinberg teaches that each list item corresponds to a **node**. The list item will include information such as "the URL (i.e., address), an annotation, the scanning status . . . the numbers of inbound links and outbound links, and the date and time of last modification." *Weinberg, Column 17, Lines 27-34*. While a **number** of links to each node are displayed, the **links themselves** are not detailed. The list of Weinberg does not relate particular links to the groups which they connect.

The recited subject matter, on the other hand, displays a list of outside **connections**. Because the MLC object and corresponding icon represent multiple links rather than a single node, the list is used to convey information about each outside link and its associated hardware group. Each item in the MLC list conveys information about the bundled links represented by the MLC object. This has the

beneficial effect of providing the user with an efficient way to view the information corresponding to the bundled links. While multiple links are represented by a single icon, the user can at a single click see how many outside links actually exist and to what hardware groups they connect. Therefore, the "corresponding list view" of Weinberg fails to disclose an MLC list where each outside link is associated with a respective group.

Therefore, for at least the foregoing reasons, independent claims 1, 6, 13, and 16 are allowable in light of the references of record. Claims 3-5 depend from allowable claim 1; claims 8-12 depend from allowable claim 6; claims 14 and 15 depend from allowable claim 13; and claims 18-20 depend from allowable claim 16. Therefore, claims 3-5, 8-12, 14, 15, and 18-20 are allowable at least based upon their respective dependencies.

For at least the forgoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1, 3-6, 8-16, and 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 be withdrawn.

NEW CLAIMS

Dependent claims 21-23 are added by way of the present amendment. The cited subject matter does not constitute new subject matter and finds support in, for example, paragraphs [0025] and [0033]. Claim 21 depends from allowable claim 1; claim 22 depends from allowable claim 6; and claim 23 depends from allowable

claim 13. Thus, new claims 21-23 are allowable based at least upon their respective dependencies.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejections of record and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited.
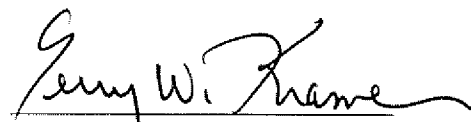
While we believe that the instant amendment places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the correspondence attorney listed below at the telephone number listed below in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

In the event that the fees submitted prove to be insufficient in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge our Deposit Account Number 50-0578 and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
KRAMER & AMADO, P.C.

Date: January 19, 2009

Terry W. Kramer
Registration No.: 41,541

KRAMER & AMADO, P.C.
1725 Duke Street, Suite 240
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703-519-9801
Fax: 703-519-9802